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OSI and NIE Program

1 July 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR/INTELLIGENCE [Becker]

SUBJECT: The Problem of Scientific and Technical Intelligence

1. Herewith some thoughts on the problem of scientific and technical intelligence which are pretty close to convictions with me.

2. Without in any way trying to derogate the importance and the extraordinary difficulty of your administrative problems, let me repeat that had O/NE not had the assistance of O/SI in drafting the text of SNIE-5, that estimate would have been a quite different and far, far less useful document. In fact, it is my belief that without O/SI's interpretation of the evidence and with no corrective for service interpretation of the evidence, O/NE could have done nothing but accept the service interpretation which in the light of what I learned from O/SI would have been an over-reassuring one.

1.3(a)(4)

3. Obviously this is for your private eye and just as obviously if I give it any further circulation it will be to Washington Platt on an "Eyes Only" basis.

SHERMAN KENT
Assistant Director
National Estimates

HS/HC-124
Item 3

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